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TELECON

Congressman Passman/Secretary Kissinger

December 18, 1974

3:27 pm

RELEASED IN FULL

K: I just talked to George Mahon

P: I was on the line.

K: I talked to him again. I had forgotten about Portugal. There are elections in Portugal in March and the Portuguese Government has asked us when Costa Gomez was here, that whatever we could do before the elections would help to cut down the Communist votes.

P: They refused to take our aid 25 years ago and now they have a new government and will take our aid.

K: Senator Kennedy has put in an AID amendment in the Senate and I think it's being cut from 50 to 20 million. I just wanted to tell you what the legislative situation is.

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P: Henry Kissinger means something but as far as Kennedy is concerned he shouldn't have opened that car door. I promised Mr. Ford that I would do what I could. I told him if he wants that Bill, I would ask the Chairman to ask for Israel and Egypt. I will do something. But if we don't let my Committee remain in charge of this bill, I'm destroyed.

K: I appreciate that and the solution you came up with. From the foreign policy view, that was a lot better.

P: It would have looked better.. asked that it be weighed in favor of Egypt. Before I signed this Bill yesterday, I hoped I would talk to you or maybe the President.

K: You think you could get 20 or 25 million?

P: How much did you ask for?

K: In the Senate they have 50 million. If you could -- I think it's been cut in the conference to 25. If we could get that I would appreciate it.

P: You're talking about the regular bill.

K: Yes.

P: If you want that -- you're going to get it.

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K: We want it in the Continuing Resolution. It must be before March.
Mahon called you and the President.

P: /I want it in the Continuing Resolution. I said I want an understanding.
If we get an authorization bill signed into law then we ought to be coming
back here on January 14. I'm going to call my Committee into session
the following day and move my bill on Wednesday and then move to full
Committee on the 17th. I'm going to write my report and have this bill
on the floor.

K: That would lose us a month.

P: How much do you want?

K: 20million into the continuing resolution.

P: Let me talk to the Chairman.

K: I have talked to him. I just don't want him to think I am going behind
his back.

P: Ok. I will talk to him and I'll see you at breakfast tomorrow morning.

K: Yes. Look forward to it.

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